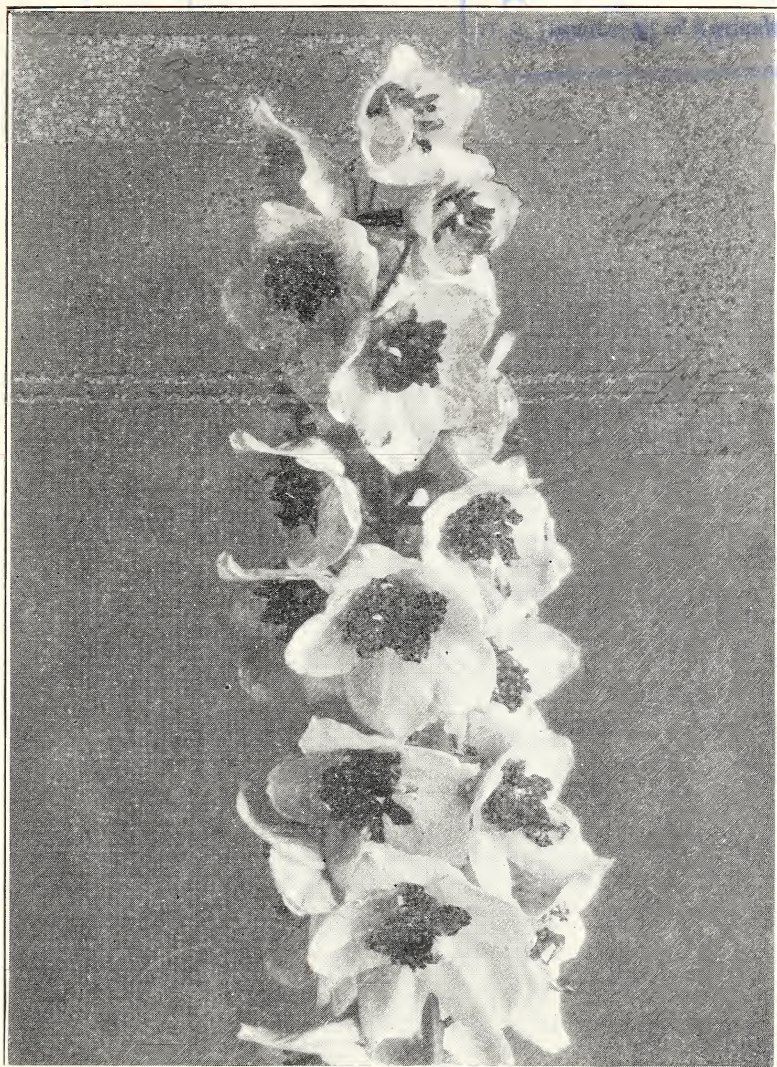


Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



STORM CLOUD—Deep blue with black center and slightly fragrant

Charles E. Lober

HOODACRES
DELPHINIUMS

(Perennial Larkspurs)

Greeting from the Plantman

Though small, this booklet is carefully prepared with accurate information on Delphiniums and is intended to be worth preserving for reference. Should it happen to come to one who is not interested it will be considered a favor if that person will kindly pass it on. Some have taken the trouble to send names of friends who garden with intelligence and skill and I also wish to thank the many who report on the character of plants received and the results from Hoodacres seeds.



HOODACRES Larkspur farm and display field is located directly on **Columbia River Highway**, the great scenic drive of the western world, five miles out from Portland city limits and midway between Portland and Troutdale. (Office formerly at 1552 Union Avenue, Portland.) Take Sandy Road to Birdsdales Avenue.

Some Delphiniums are blooming throughout the season; largest showing late May through June, September and October. Visitors are always welcome.

Come into the gardens and see the infinite variety of forms, colors and combinations of colors.

Chas. F. Barber

TROUTDALE, OREGON

(Mail and wire address)

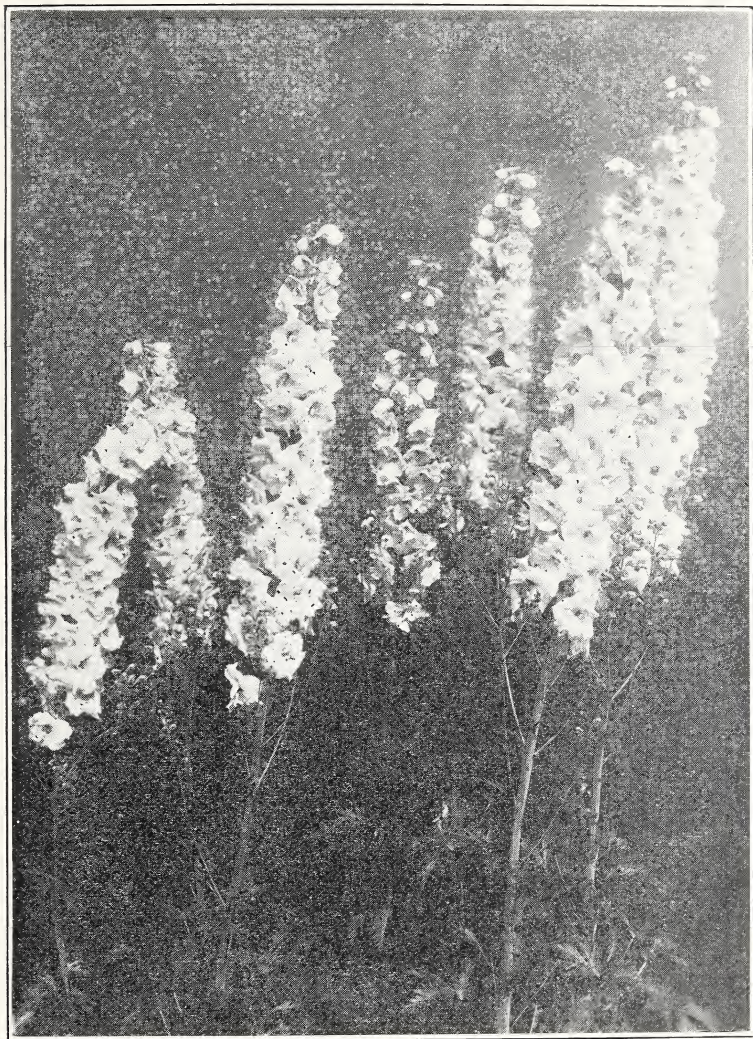
Phone Gresham LD 1687.



Autumn 1928 ~ Spring 1929

(A new catalog is issued each year about August first)

HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS



A three year NAVAJO. Very light blue overlaid pale hortense violet, with white center.

HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS represent the pinnacle of present attainment in these stately flowers. In beginning the work of selection and improvement, which has extended over a period of more than twenty-five years, I took advantage of the best that had been done in Europe and continued to add the cream of their accomplishments so long as it contributed new or valuable features to the Hoodacres ideal.

The demand for **Hoodacres Delphiniums** made it imperative that greatly enlarged growing conditions be provided. The **Columbia River Highway** being one of the famous scenic drives of the world seemed the logical direction and great good fortune attended the selection: splendid soil, prominent and pleasing location, together with nearness to the city of Portland, make it quite ideal.

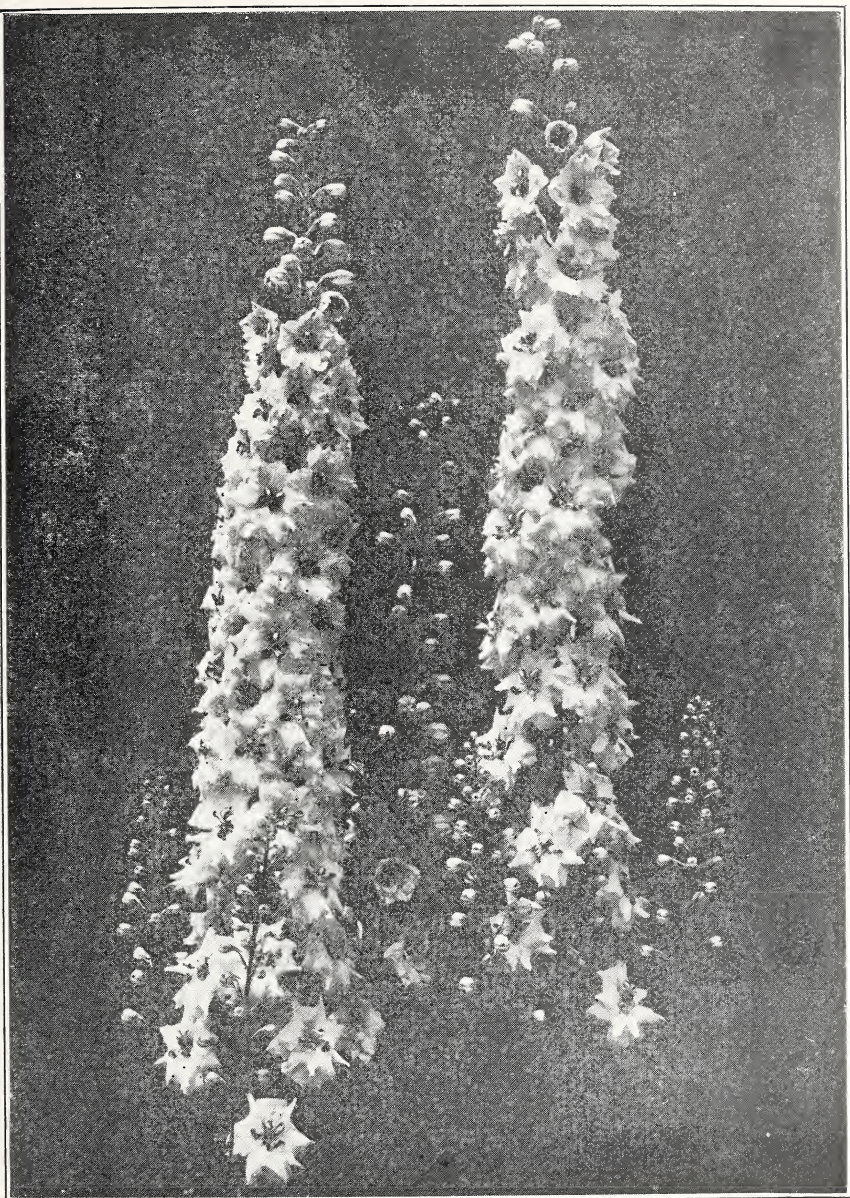
In this new tract, containing seven and a half acres, we shall be still better prepared to send out plants of great vigor and highest quality, also to accept and fill very large orders. Here also the conditions for plant breeding will allow of greatly extended work in that direction and the public will be informed of the new things from time to time.

No real visitor to Oregon but takes the Columbia River Highway trip and no real garden lover but will want to stop at **HOODACRES** during the season of Delphinium bloom, which extends through late spring into early summer and from September to frost. (Note exact location page two.)



Edgartown, Mass., October 22, 1927.

"The plants were too wonderful — I have **never** seen such splendid clumps. I am sure they will "behave" beautifully and be a credit to us both. If the hollyhocks behind and the dahlias beside them are half so lovely, I will send you a picture of my borders next summer."



HARLEQUIN displays a fancy spreading center to light colored semi-double florets.

Wrexham or "Hollyhock" Delphiniums

In 1921 there came out of Wales, to the London exhibitions, the marvelous "Wrexham" seedlings which literally "swept the board," so massive and effective were they. Visitors continually exclaimed: "Why, they are like Hollyhocks!"

The strain is conspicuous for its broad-based tall spikes, carrying largest individual flowers that run largely to the rich deep shades, much prized by experienced growers.

Immediately after Mr. Samuel's display of his new creations I began receiving his product direct, made heavy plantings, and at once introduced the strain to American growers, with the result that the name "Wrexham" is now almost as well known as "Belladonna." The demand necessitates increased plantings each season.

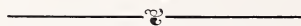
Even the young plants blooming for the first time are a revelation to Delphinium collectors and their massive character in fuller maturity is cause for fresh amazement.

This illustration on opposite page is intended to represent the type and show the full development of a plant, instead of a single spike. **OLYMPUS** grew under normal conditions of soil, climate and treatment and at time of photographing was just about twenty-eight months old.

As our Wrexham planting is very large, we shall be able to take care of many orders for plants we have systematically checked when in bloom, and that can be relied upon to give satisfaction. We are obliged to defer offering named varieties.

Selected seedling plants, \$3.00 and \$5.00 each. Only a limited number of the \$5.00 kind.

Above prices apply also to the superior Hoodacres-Wrexham seedlings.

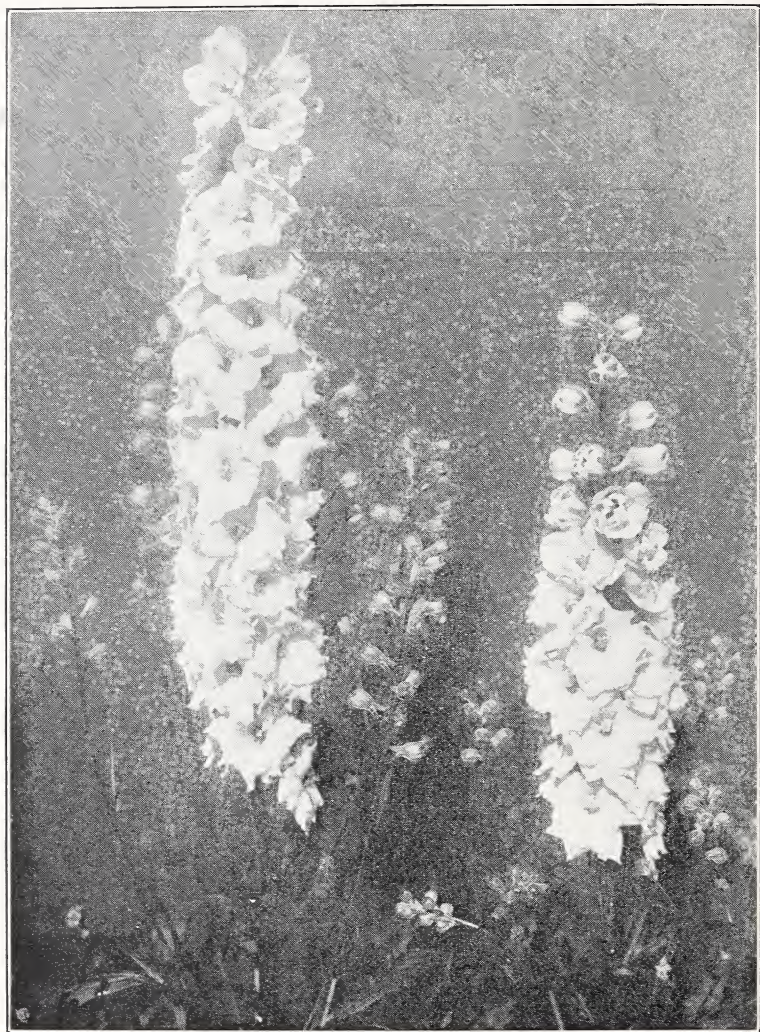


We issue no general catalog, although growing a great number of perennials—many of them quite rare.

*H*OODACRES *D*ELPHINIUMS



OLYMPUS



BRIDESMAID—Glistening White.

The Chaste White Delphiniums

One of the loveliest flowers imaginable is a well grown spike of double white Delphinium. Something about its formation and appealing purity goes straight to the heart. Few flower growers have come under the spell of this new creation.

After many years of skillful endeavor by the breeders of the world to produce a good semi-double White Delphinium it remained for HOODACRES, in America, to bring forth this remarkable accomplishment. And it has been done with the fewest possible intermediate stages of development. The magnificent spikes of purest white are carried as tall and on just as rugged plants as the ones with color. This will be observed in the photographs reproduced in this booklet.

While these pages may carry beautiful illustration of things grown at Hoodacres, they cannot reproduce the spectacle of living specimens and the imagination of the reader must be invoked to visualize them. Going into the White garden here in the edge of evening is like entering a land of enchantment where the ranks of an army are filled with soldiers of peace.

Albinos of the past have been weak, shabbily clothed and unfit to appear in good company. Quite as by magic these white creations came, leaving the hybridizers puzzling as to how it was brought about.

Last season we had only a very few HOODACRES WHITE plants to send out but having more stock now we shall fill orders as long as they last. It will be well to have orders entered early. There will be some splendid seedlings that have bloomed and shown their quality and these we shall price at \$10.00 to \$15.00 each. Plants of White Sister will be \$15.00 each and the other named varieties \$25.00 each.

(Description of varieties next page.)

White Varieties

Bridal Gown, large single flowers, white with creamy center, well built spikes and luxuriant foliage. The fore-runner of a new race.

White Sister, a variety of good size florets and spikes—the first strong break of pure white semi-double flowers, carried on plants with perfect foliage and vigorous constitution. It has been the parent of many of the Hood-acres white creations.

The Bride. A variation from other pure white varieties in the delicate blush that overspreads the blossom when first opened. Taken alone it appears white only but on close examination or comparison it is seen to resemble the lightest shadings found in the beautiful *Krameri Lily*. The florets are large and the plant typically robust.

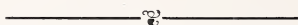
Pearl Necklace arrived along with *The Bride*—probably from the same seed pod—and having the same general characteristics but is clear white and the sepals and petals are somewhat more pointed.

Bridesmaid bears $2\frac{1}{2}$ inch flowers on a plant that is the picture of trim health (see page eight). It has the same charming flush upon opening as *The Bride* and captivates all who see its remarkable inflorescence. (No plants yet)

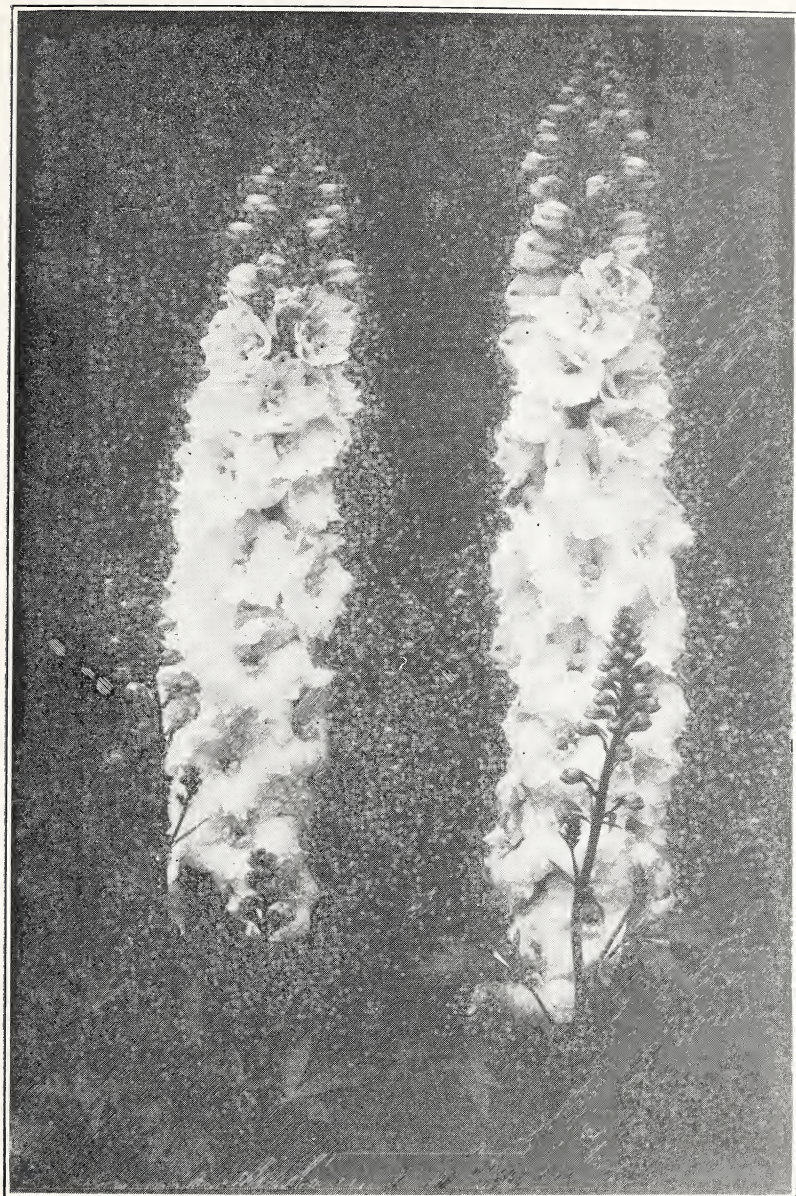
Snow Bound is much like *White Sister* in all ways, except that absence of the usual petaloids at the center exposes the tiny black-tipped stamens and adds another attractive feature. (No plants available.)

Angel's Breath, very large glistening white flowers neatly set off with a good sized center of delicate tan. One of the most attractive of the set.

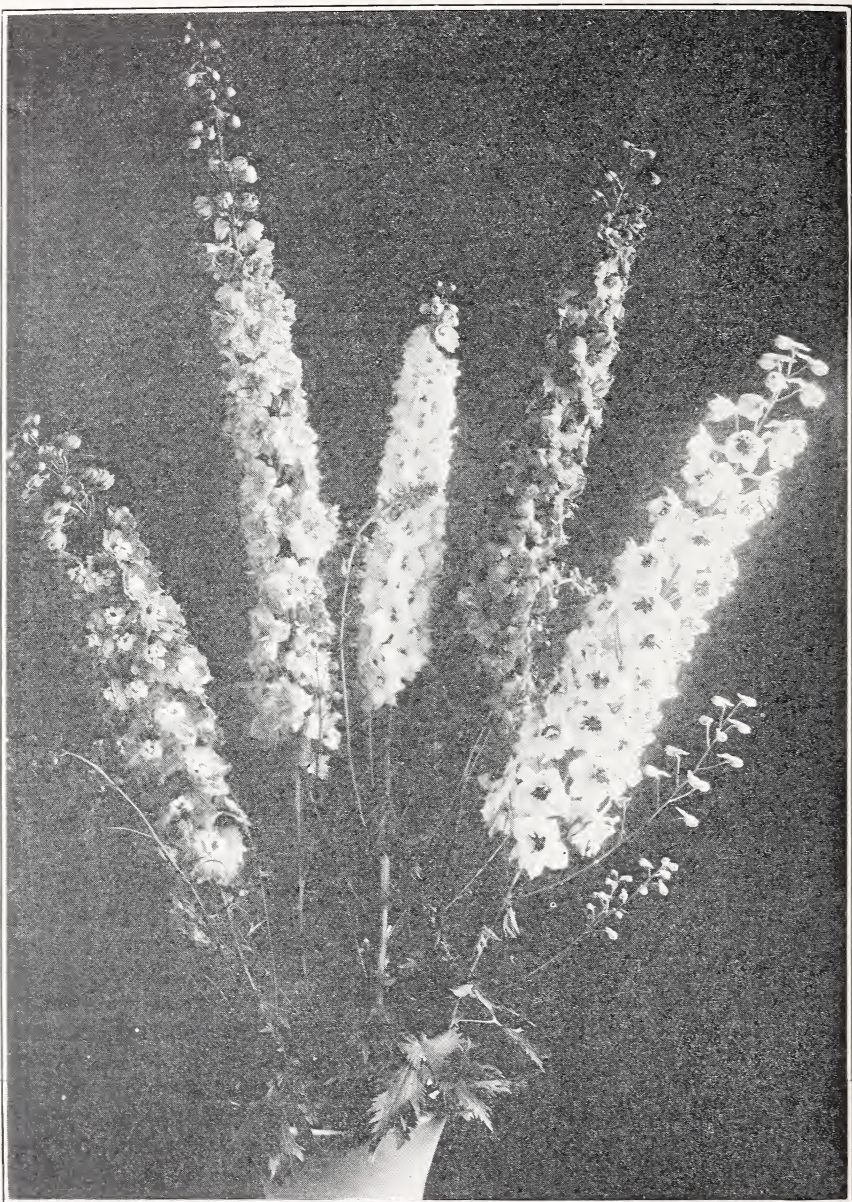
For prices see page nine.



"My garden is the open gate I've found in Heaven's wall."



THE BRIDE, White with the faintest blush.



Class Spikes: RAMA, QUAPAW, WHITE MANTUA, SHASTA,
BILOXI.

Delphinium Classification

Delphiniums classify naturally into twelve groups, relating to form and color of the individual florets. In form there are single flowers and also semi-double; in shades **light**, **medium** and **dark**, while the centers, or eyes, are either white or some darker tone—all accounted for in the simple Hoodacres classification plan.

The single-flowered are in an alphabetical sequence of six: Apache, Biloxi, Cayuga, Dakota, Eskimo and Fon-echa. The semi-doubles form another similar sextette: Navajo, Ottawa, Pawnee, Quapaw, Rama and Shasta. All the distinctions will be quickly recognized by reference to the illustrations on next page.

LIGHT SHADES

All lightest colored varieties, excepting whites. In this division the so-called pink tones occur, usually in combination with light blue sepals. In the APACHE section are found the Belladonna blues, while dark eyes in the BILOXI tribe afford an attractive contrast.

MEDIUM SHADES

All medium shades in innumerable combinations and forms fall within this division, including those having mauve and pinky mauve running off into lilac markings. The blues are mostly gentian or ultramarine and some are very clear and sparkling.

DARK SHADES

All dark and very dark varieties. As with the lighter colors, some have extremely large centers and when this is jet black on deep blue the effect is of blue-black velvet. In this division are the deep genetian and marine blues, as well as the red-purples and blue-purples, which are almost always combined with blue.

These are illustrated on next page.



White Centered Singles

Apache, light
Cayuga, medium
Eskimo, dark

Dark Centered Singles

Biloxi, light
Dakota, medium
Fonecha, dark

White Centered Semi-Doubles

Navajo, light
Pawnee, medium
Rama, dark

Dark Centered Semi-Doubles

Ottawa, light
Quapaw, medium
Shasta, dark

SELECTED Hoodacres Hybrids

UNNAMED

Cannot be too highly recommended, and just escape being set aside and named by reason of their close similarity to others that are so honored. They are the seedling product of the finest varieties the world affords, grown to large blooming specimens before they are sent out. Some of the parents are wonderful new kinds, not for sale at any price.

From the many thousand plants so created, is selected each season, at time of blooming, by a system of careful checking, a limited number of exceptional merit that are distinguished into **light**, **medium** and **dark** shades as well as other characteristics outlined in the Classification, pages 13 and 14. These **must not be confused with named kinds** referred to elsewhere in this catalog, although they vie with them in general excellence and are sold at the lower price of

\$1.00 each, or full dozen **\$10.00**

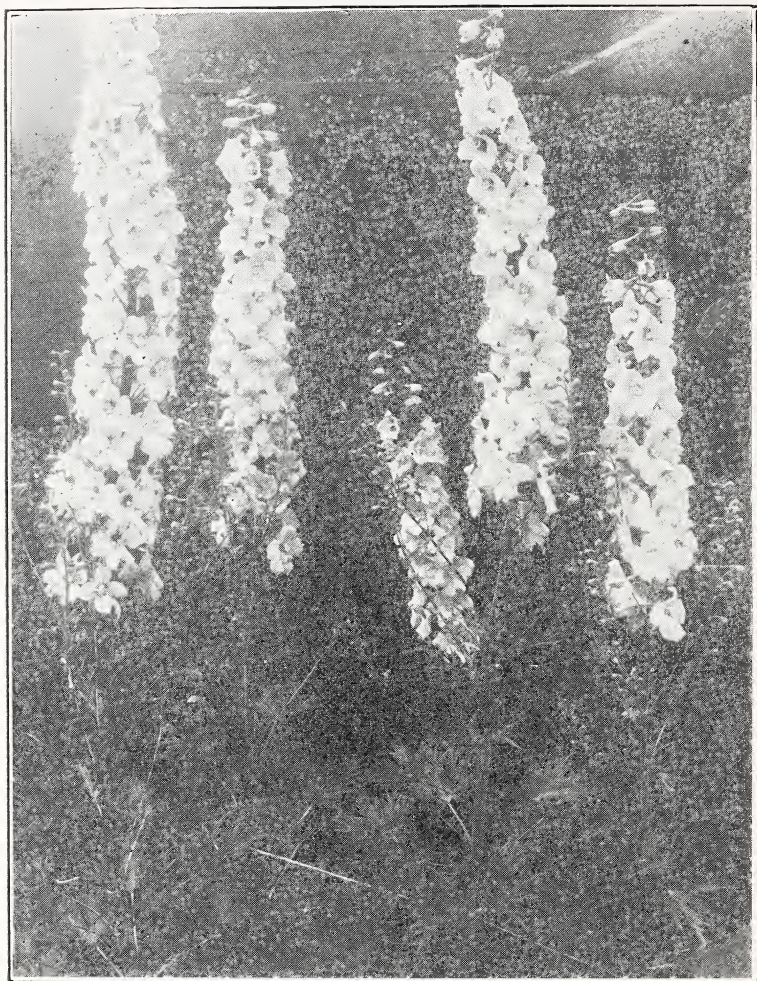
(No named varieties can be selected under this head.)

Also Hoodacres Hybrids—Unselected

are sold from the general planting, after all doubtful ones have been eliminated when in bloom. These give remarkable satisfaction and frequently single specimens are found to be worth the cost of a dozen. The price is low enough to encourage liberal planting. Do you know the pleasure of a Delphinium patch from which to cut freely for indoor decoration?

\$3.50 per dozen; half dozen, **\$2.00**; 100, **\$25.00**

Plants are usually shipped by express.



One Plant of Fragrant Delphinium

While the fragrance is distinct and delicate it was yet strong enough to arrest unsuspecting attention at Hood-acres two years ago and now there are several plants. Suggestive of hawthorn, artemesia and rose. Color pale cadet blue and light hortense violet, with a speck of fawn in the center. We offer seeds without any guarantee of fragrant plants.

SEEDS of Hoodacres Delphiniums

One of the most exacting operations at Hoodacres is the protection and collection of **SEEDS** from prepared specimen plants. Only such are used—we do not gather from the general planting.

As all our advancement over existing kinds comes by cross pollenization through seeds, the skillful preparation of these tiny germs holds a great prophesy for next year's revelations. From many reports the quality of Hoodacres seedlings is unrivaled, particularly in the number of exceptional specimens produced.

HOODACRES, complete range of shades and forms liberal packets.....	\$1.00
CLASSIFIED, 12 types (See pages 13-14), in separate packets only:	
Navajo, Ottawa, Pawnee, Quapaw, Rama, Shasta packets	\$1.00 each
Apache, Biloxi, Cayuga, Dakota, Eskimo, Fon- echa, packets	50c each
The set of 12 packets.....	\$7.50
WREXHAM (Hollyhock) strain, alone, packet.....	\$1.00
FRAGRANS, the one with perfume, packet.....	\$1.00
HOODACRES WHITE, semi-double varieties mixed, packet of 100 seeds.....	\$5.00

How to Grow Delphiniums from Seed

The seed-bed, whether flats, cold-frame or open ground, should be composed of fine loamy soil, with sand added, if required, for perfect friability, and containing some leaf mold. Late summer sowing, preferably in cold-frames without glass, but **shaded until germination takes place** (where they may remain over winter), will bring flowering plants the following summer. Very early spring sowing in gentle heat will also produce some bloom the same season (greenhouse or hotbed). Some bottom heat facilities and accelerates germination at this season of the year. Later spring sowing will furnish plants for blooming the following June. A layer of sand on top of seed-bed will discourage slugs and prevent crust.

Once transplanting before going into permanent place induces a fuller root system. **Never let the seed-bed dry out for even a moment.**

Sowing Delphinium seeds in open ground invites disappointment—planting in cold-frame with raised soil vastly better. Give plenty of air and use glass only as necessary.

Hoodacres seeds are harvested throughout the month of July and are usually ready to send out the first week in August, just in time to be sown for carrying over winter.



All Letters in This Catalog Are Entirely Spontaneous

Omaha, Nebraska, July 10, 1928.

"I must tell you of the beautiful blooms we had from your seed started last summer. We watched them each day and what was our surprise and delight one morning to find the tallest and best looking plant blossom out a pure white with immense flowerets that glistened in the sun. It was worth everything else in the garden."



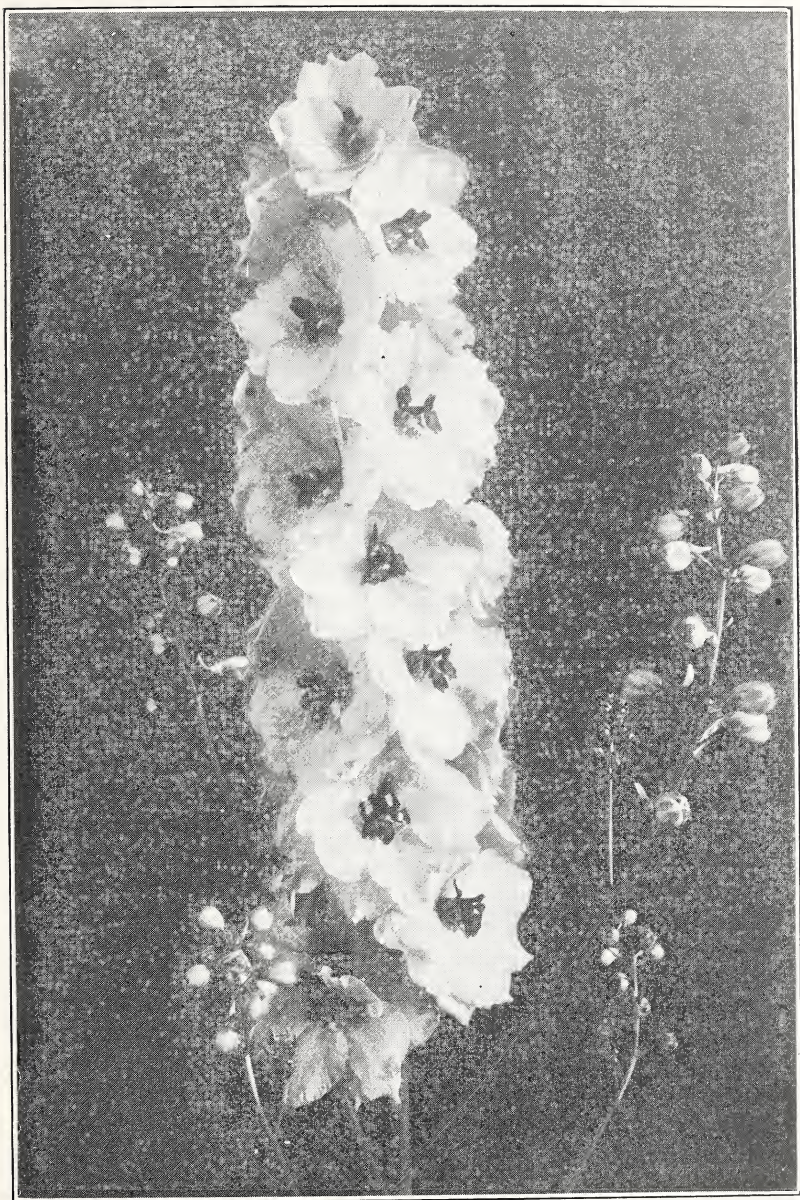
**From "Cape Times," Cape Town, South Africa,
November 2, 1927.**

"By the way, Mr. Hauptfleisch's Delphiniums at Stellenbosch were superb—one variety in particular being so exquisite that there is bound to be a rush for it in the forthcoming season." Mr. Hauptfleisch writes: "The Delphiniums referred to are from seeds supplied last December. From these first year seedlings I got spikes standing eight feet high. Thanks very much for sending such good seeds."



Washington, Penna., June 25, 1928.

"I will say in regard to you and your plants; they are better by far than any we have raised, considering the fact that we have some 50,000 now growing in our nursery, from imported English strains and other Delphinium Specialists in America."



SACHEM—The pinky mauve petals nearly obscure the medium blue sepals; eye is jet black.

Named Varieties

We have a long list of named varieties, both standard kinds and Hoodacres productions, but so far we have been unable to increase the stocks to the point where they can be offered without incurring disappointment to those who ask for them after the limited supply is exhausted. We have therefore discontinued listing them for the present.

But giving quite as great satisfaction are the CLASSIFIED seedlings from the choicest named varieties. They are true to type and often develop into unusual specimens that are superior to the named parents. These are described on pages 13 and 14.

More from the Letter Files

Guadalajara, Jal., Mexico, November 26, 1927.

"The Delphiniums arrived in fine condition. I am sending my check to cover the cost, and sending, of one more dozen of the Selected Hoodacres Hybrids. Please pack in the same manner as the first order."

Grinnell, Iowa, October 27, 1927.

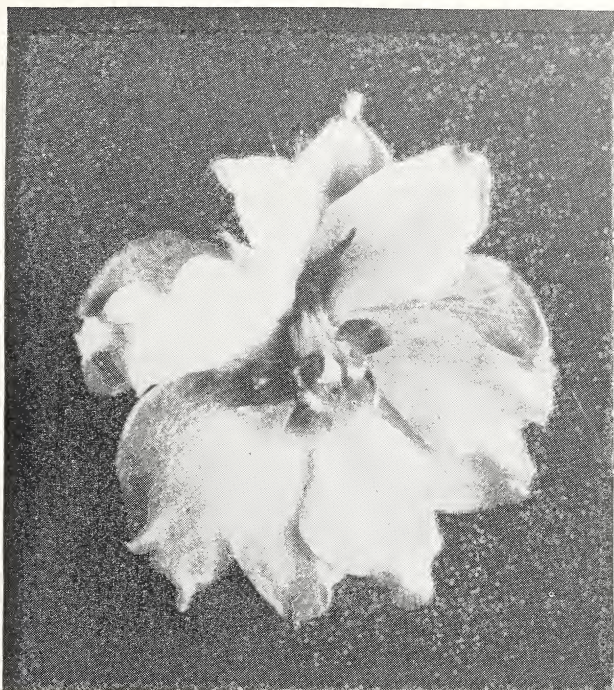
"Thank you very much for those Delphiniums packed like some rare antiques that we received from Boston. The stock is great—you probably get tired reading about never receiving better stock. We never did."

Philadelphia, June 14, 1928.

"The Delphiniums arrived at Ardmore in excellent condition and are thriving at the present time.

I was surprised at the large size of these plants, which is beyond anything I have yet seen in first year's seedlings."

The **American Delphinium Society** is beginning what is expected to be a broadly useful career. Its charter-membership exceeded 200 at time of closing, June 30th, 1928, and plans for the permanent organization and officers are going forward. Applications for membership should be sent to the temporary secretary, Mr. Newell F. Vanderbilt, San Rafael, Calif., or the temporary president, Chas. F. Barber, Troutdale, Oregon.



ANGEL'S BREATH—Clear white with fawn center.

Slides for Delphinium Talks

Occasionally Mr. Barber is inveigled into giving Delphinium talks before Garden Clubs, but, not being a lecturer, relies upon a small set of colored slides, illustrative of the modern Delphinium in its various forms, colors and uses, to keep the audience from flocking out. These slides, including a few on Lupins, and now numbering 25, will be gladly loaned to accredited Garden Clubs, as available, when "Delphiniums" is to be the meeting topic. The Club is to be responsible for their safe and prompt return and the mailing charges going and coming. It will be well to make application a month in advance.

Delphinium Companions

CAMPANULAS have a very important place in the garden scheme—the larger ones for the borders and pygmies for the rockery. And now we are getting the glorified “Peachbells” that stand four to five feet high with their great bells of blue in various shades. Tower Bells is one of these, developed at Hoodacres, having extraordinary size bells and unusual depth of color, with great vigor. Plants **50c** each. (See illustration page 24.)

HYBRID LUPINS. In last year’s catalog we described the new Hybrid Lupins and offered seeds. On account of breaking up the plantings for increase of stock we are still unable to offer plants and not many seeds will be available, but will send them out so long as they last at **\$1.00** a packet.

REGALE LILIES are fast becoming prized garden acquaintances and ere long will be indispensables. It is a splendid doer—sure to bloom and grow stronger each year. As this item is being written there is on display in a Portland window a cut stem bearing fifty-five large blossoms and they sometimes make several stems. The reddish buds open to white inside with a beautiful sulphur along the tube into the throat. We have a fine stock in blooming sizes at **50c, 75c** and **\$1.00** each.

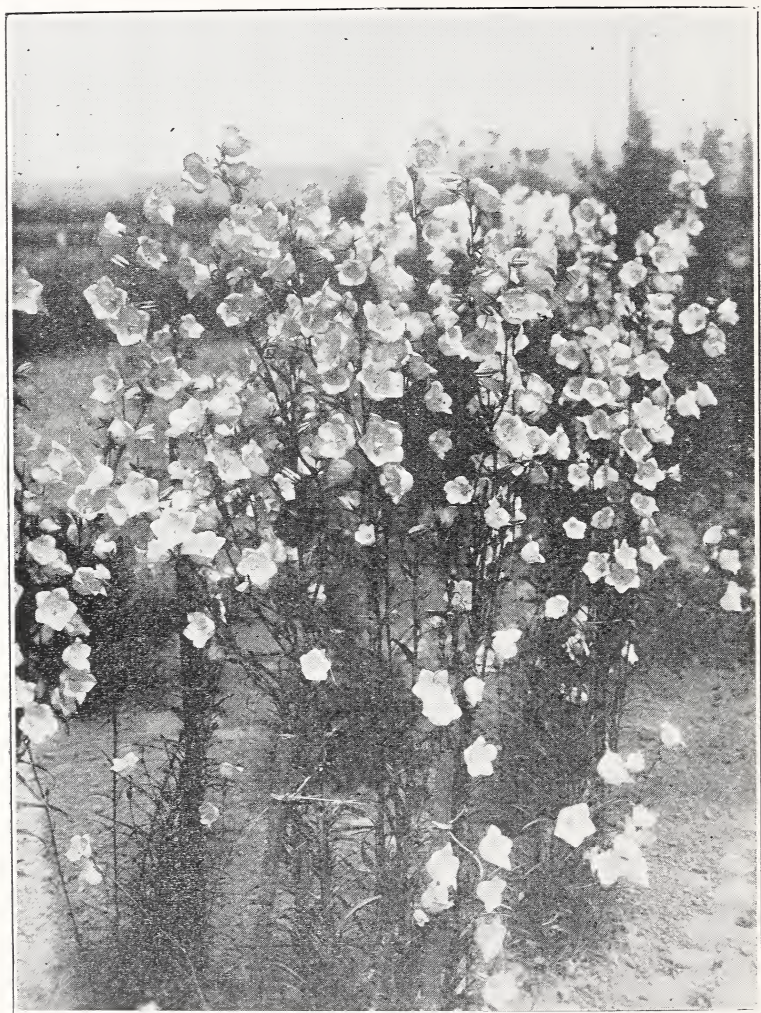
TUBEROUS BEGONIAS. Visitors to Hoodacres find our collection of Tuberous Begonias constantly in bloom from the first of July on to frost and marvel at their coloring and perfection of large double waxen flowers. Plant them in beds and lift after frost kills the foliage, storing them like gladioli. We grow the famous Blackmore and Langdon English kind in shades of red, pink, orange, yellow, etc., well assorted. Fine blooming tubers **\$3.00 per dozen.**



RAIN OF FIRE and EDGE HALL

The Garden Trim

The ideal edging plant that shines also in the rockery and becomes a most charming and lasting cut flower is the new **Hybrid Heuchera**. A new race of "Coral Bells" with greater vigor and blooming power, in shades from pure white through pink to coral and brilliant reds to maroon. They make a flowing stream of color when edging the borders. We are now supplying **Rain of Fire**, a most brilliant red, and **Edge Hall**, the quieter pinky shade. Plants **40c** each; **\$4.00** per dozen.



Campanula, TOWER BELLS. Color Bradley's Violet.

Their Culture

Plants are safely moved throughout the fall and early spring, but may suffer if moved in late spring. Except in very wet, cold soils, **autumn planting is strongly recommended.**

Delphiniums set in autumn make unchecked headway when the spring urge comes and therefore make better showing than those set in spring; they are among the first herbaceous plants to start growth. After getting well grown plants allow ample space for each and open the earth eighteen inches or more in depth and as much in breadth, filling one-half with rough humus soil (old sods will do) well tamped. Complete filling with the best soil you can provide, preferably containing some leaf mold, and made thoroughly friable. If of a clayey nature, incorporate sand to prevent caking, as much of the vigor of the plant comes from the tiny surface roots. Set plants two feet apart, with crowns two inches below the surface, the roots well spread and soil firmed against them before leveling. Avoid dense shade and roots of trees.

When growth first starts in spring dig around each plant a trowel of bone-meal. Cut faded spikes to prevent seeding. It is the nature of hybrid Delphiniums to **bloom a second time** in the season and as the second growth appears the old stalk yellows, is no longer required, and should be cut down. Do not force this second growth, rather allow a short resting period, then give another supply of bone-meal, **being careful not to destroy the fine surface-feeding roots**, and water generously. If the weaker growths are removed when plants are a few inches high the remaining ones will benefit. Well grown Delphiniums will bloom the first season after planting and being true perennials should, with favorable conditions, increase in size and grandeur each year.

A good mound of sand over each plant affords winter protection and wards off slugs.

Garden Enemies

Although hardly known on the Pacific Coast, in some sections there has been trouble from a disease called "blight" or "black spot," which starts with black spots on the leaves that extend and enlarge until the entire growth of the plant is killed. Also there is a form of root rot that seems to prevail in some places. An effective cure is said to be a government formula, as follows: Mercuric Chloride, 1 gram; Sodium Nitrate, 1 gram; Water, 5½ gallons. Apply with a sprinkler close in so as to get down to the roots. It will not injure the foliage and takes care of both the spot and root rot.

If plants show a weak or unhealthy condition, not due to the above troubles, it may be the soil is not healthy. Try the following: Unslaked lime, 2 pounds; Water, 5 gallons; Tobacco dust, ½ pound. Slake lime and add tobacco dust, then when using dilute in proportion of 1 to 12 and saturate the ground freely, repeating as needed.

Also the standard lime-sulphur solution as diluted for orchard spray is an excellent and safe corrective on Delphinium ground.



In mild climates the slug sometimes becomes a pest, destroying the young growths of various plants. Here are several recommended formulas for battling with them:

Pound fine copper sulphate crystals and strew on the ground where slugs work—merely touching it dries them up. It is very poisonous and must be handled with care.

One pound calcium arsenate to 16 pounds bran mixed with water to just crumble. Sprinkle at night when not raining.

One half teaspoon permanganate of potash and one-half teaspoon salt to two gallons water. Wetting the ground with this brings them quickly to the surface.

One ounce powdered alum to one gallon water. Sprinkle surrounding ground thoroughly.

When Delphiniums Bloom

It is not difficult to comprehend why gardeners grow Delphiniums, or perennial Larkspurs. They do not grow them for profit, although those who tend the flowers may be commercial gardeners. They do not grow them for gain solely. If you have seen a garden of Delphiniums in full flower, ranging from the hue of a starless twilight to that of cloudless summer noon, you will know that gardeners could not think wholly of profit and grow Delphiniums. For if they were to begin thinking in this wise, there is so much money to be made of seedlings and seed, presently they must stand mused before the blossoms, giving thanks to creation. And they would be thinking, "Here is a sunset over the far sea"; and thinking, "Here is night as she comes to the valley"; and their thoughts would be far from dollars and dross.

It is simple enough to lose one's heart to any flower. The loveliness of it grows in the loam of one's heart and blooms there until the season of that flower is anticipated and a hunger comes for the witnessing of it. New leaves emerge from the soil, and bending over them, that delicate, fragile green, one considers that they must bloom some day. And the flower stalk rises from amid the foliage, and buds appear, and eagerness hovers the miracle. It will be soon, now. It is in this wise that gardeners watch the Delphinium, and more observantly than any other of the garden's guests.

Nor are they ever unrewarded. There is a morning when the spires unfold, and modestly, and day to day the Delphiniums increase in stately stature and quaint beauty until there is no dream of blue that does not find its counterpart in the garden. There are tints past dreaming, as must ever be the case when the creative artistry vies with the fancy of mortals. Delphiniums are very satisfactory. To walk among them is to feel that providence is not unmindful of beauty, that it takes thought of the nurture of the spirit, and that the Delphiniums hold speech with you. There is a white-crowned sparrow singing in the rose.—Ben Hur Lampman in *The Oregonian*.



What are you doing, O butterfly,
Hovering o'er flowers so blue?
I'm bringing a message earthward;
Listen, it is for you.

We're bringing pots of color,
Upon our wings, so gay,
Your flowers will surely use them
Throughout each sunny day.

God helps us work together;
You find this everywhere—
The bright flowers of the garden,
The winged things of the air.

—Constance Barber